

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An inventory management method for controlling amounts of stocks, the method comprising the steps of:

storing delivery times and quantities of order lots accepted and restock lead times predetermined every item in a storage;

selecting at least one order lot accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before to “a” days after a basic time, from said order lots accepted, to set a threshold value  $x+y\sigma_1$  (where y is equal to or more than 0) based upon both an average x and a standard deviation  $\sigma_1$  of quantities of said selected order lot(s) accepted;

classifying at least one order lot accepted having a quantity  $\alpha$  of the selected order lot(s) accepted as a normal accepted order lot(s), wherein the  $\alpha$  is less than or equal to said threshold value; and

calculating a basic stock using a predetermined formula from said classified normal accepted order ~~lot(s)~~ lot(s),

wherein said calculating the basic stock using the predetermined formula comprises:

calculating an order point “r” and the basic stock  $\beta$  using following equations:

$$r = cz + m\sigma_4\sqrt{c}$$

$$\beta = r + tz$$

where “z” signifies an average shipping quantity per day of an order lot, having a delivery time within a period from the basic time to “a” days after, of said normal accepted order lot(s), “c” represents the restock lead time, “t” is an order differential time delay, “m” is equal to or greater than 1,  $\sigma_4$  signifies a standard deviation of shipping quantities per day of

order lots accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before to the basic time, of said normal accepted order lot(s);

when  $d + e \leq r$ , where “d” signifies a present amount of a stock and “e” represents a quantities on order, calculating a required order quantity “f” using an equation  $f = \beta - (d + e - cz)$ .

2. (Currently Amended) An inventory management method for controlling amounts of stocks, the method comprising the steps of:

storing delivery times and quantities of order lots accepted and restock lead times predetermined every item in a storage;

selecting at least one order lot accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before a basic time to the basic time, from said order lots accepted, to set a threshold value  $x_1 + y_1 \sigma_2$  (where  $y_1$  is equal to or more than 0) based upon both an average  $x_1$  and a standard deviation  $\sigma_2$  of quantities of said selected order lot(s) accepted, and selecting at least one order lot accepted, having a delivery time within a period from the basic time to “a” days after the basic time, from said ordered lots, to set a threshold value  $x_2 + y_2 \sigma_3$  (where  $y_2$  is equal to or more than 0) based upon both an average  $x_2$  and a standard deviation  $\sigma_3$  of quantities of said selected order lot(s) accepted;

classifying at least one order lot accepted having a quantity “B”, being less than or equal to said threshold value  $(x_1 + y_1 \sigma_2)$ , of the selected order lot(s) accepted, having a delivery time before the basic time, as a normal accepted order lot(s), and classifying at least one order lot accepted having a quantity “A”, being less than or equal to said threshold value  $(x_2 + y_2 \sigma_3)$ , of the selected order lot(s) accepted, having a delivery time after the basic time, as the normal accepted order lot(s); and

calculating a basic stock using a predetermined formula from said classified normal accepted order lot(s).lot(s).

wherein said calculating the basic stock using the predetermined formula comprises:

calculating an order point “r” and the basic stock  $\beta$  using following equations:

$$r = cz + m\sigma_4\sqrt{c}$$

$$\beta = r + tz$$

where “z” signifies an average shipping quantity per day of an order lot, having a delivery time within a period from the basic time to “a” days after, of said normal accepted order lot(s), “c” represents the restock lead time, “t” is an order differential time delay, “m” is equal to or greater than 1,  $\sigma_4$  signifies a standard deviation of shipping quantities per day of order lots accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before to the basic time, of said normal accepted order lot(s);

when  $d + e \leq r$ , where “d” signifies a present amount of a stock and “e” represents a quantities on order, calculating a required order quantity “f” using an equation  $f = \beta - (d + e - cz)$ .

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a relationship between said a and b is  $a:b=1:1.5-3$ .

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said “a” is in a range as follows:  $5days \leq a \leq 60days$ .

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

setting an alarm criteria range based upon said basic stock  $\beta$ , and monitoring a total of shipping quantities in a period from a basic alarm time to “c” days after the basic alarm time, when the total is beyond the alarm criteria range issuing ~~an~~ a warning.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, further comprising the steps of:

setting an alarm criteria range based upon said basic stock  $\beta$ , and monitoring a total of shipping quantities in a period from a basic alarm time to “c” days after the basic alarm time, when the total is beyond the alarm criteria range issuing ~~an~~ a warning; and

recalculating, when the warning is issued, said basic stock and/or said order point to reconfigure them.

8. (Currently Amended) An inventory management system for controlling amounts of stocks, comprising:

storing means for storing delivery times and quantities of order lots accepted and restock lead times predetermined every item therein;

selecting means for selecting at least one order lot accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before to “a” days after a basic time, from said order lots accepted, to set a threshold value  $x+y\sigma_1$  (where y is equal to or more than 0) based upon both an average x and a standard deviation  $\sigma_1$  of quantities of said selected order lot(s) accepted;

classifying means for selecting at least one order lot accepted having a quantity  $\alpha$  of the selected order lot(s) accepted as a normal accepted order lot(s), wherein the  $\alpha$  is less than or equal to said threshold value; and

calculating means for calculating a basic stock using a predetermined formula from said classified normal accepted order ~~lot(s).~~ lot(s).

wherein said calculating means for calculating the basic stock using the predetermined formula comprises:

calculation means for calculating an order point “r” and the basic stock  $\beta$  using following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= cz + m\sigma_4\sqrt{c} \\ \beta &= r + tz \end{aligned}$$

where “z” signifies an average shipping quantity per day of an order lot, having a delivery time within a period from the basic time to “a” days after, of said normal accepted order lot(s), “c” represents the restock lead time, “t” is an order differential time delay, “m” is equal to or greater than 1,  $\sigma_4$  signifies a standard deviation of shipping quantities per day of order lots accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before to the basic time, of said normal accepted order lot(s);

when  $d + e \leq r$ , where “d” signifies a present amount of a stock and “e” represents a quantities on order, calculating a required order quantity “f” using an equation  $f = \beta - (d + e - cz)$ .

9. (Currently Amended) An inventory management system for controlling amounts of stocks, comprising:

storing means for storing delivery times and quantities of order lots accepted and restock lead times predetermined every item therein;

selecting means for selecting at least one order lot accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before a basic time to the basic time, from said order lots accepted, to set a threshold value  $x_1 + y_1 \sigma_2$  (where  $y_1$  is equal to or more than 0) based upon both an average  $x_1$  and a standard deviation  $\sigma_2$  of quantities of said selected order lot(s) accepted, and selecting at least one order lot accepted, having a delivery time within a period from the basic time to “a” days after the basic time, from said ordered lots, to set a threshold value  $x_2 + y_2 \sigma_3$  (where  $y_2$  is equal to or more than 0) based upon both an average  $x_2$  and a standard deviation  $\sigma_3$  of quantities of said selected order lot(s) accepted;

classifying means for classifying at least one order lot accepted having a quantity “B”, being less than or equal to said threshold value  $(x_1 + y_1 \sigma_2)$ , of the selected order lot(s) accepted, having a delivery time before the basic time, as a normal accepted order lot(s), and classifying at least one order lot accepted having a quantity “A”, being less than or equal to

said threshold value  $(x_2 + y_2 \sigma_3)$ , of the selected order lot(s) accepted, having a delivery time after the basic time, as the normal accepted order lot(s); and

calculating means for calculating a basic stock using a predetermined formula from said classified normal accepted order ~~lot(s)~~-lot(s).

wherein said calculating means for calculating the basic stock using the predetermined formula comprises:

calculation means for calculating an order point "r" and the basic stock  $\beta$  using following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= cz + m\sigma_4\sqrt{c} \\ \beta &= r + tz \end{aligned}$$

where "z" signifies an average shipping quantity per day of an order lot, having a delivery time within a period from the basic time to "a" days after, of said normal accepted order lot(s), "c" represents the restock lead time, "t" is an order differential time delay, "m" is equal to or greater than 1,  $\sigma_4$  signifies a standard deviation of shipping quantities per day of order lots accepted, having a delivery time within a period from "b" days before to the basic time, of said normal accepted order lot(s);

when  $d + e \leq r$ , where "d" signifies a present amount of a stock and "e" represents a quantities on order, calculating a required order quantity "f" using an equation  $f = \beta - (d + e - cz)$ .

10. (Canceled)
11. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8, wherein a relationship between said a and b is  $a:b=1:1.5-3$ .
12. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8, wherein said "a" is in a range as follows:  $5days \leq a \leq 60days$ .
13. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 8, further comprising:

warning means for setting an alarm criteria range based upon said basic stock  $\beta$ , and monitoring a total of shipping quantities in a period from a basic alarm time to “c” days after the basic alarm time, when the total is beyond the alarm criteria range issuing ~~an~~ a warning.

14. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 8, further comprising:

warning means for setting an alarm criteria range based upon said basic stock  $\beta$ , and monitoring a total of shipping quantities in a period from a basic alarm time to “c” days after the basic alarm time, when the total is beyond the alarm criteria range issuing ~~an~~ a warning; and

reconfiguration means for recalculating, when the warning is issued, said basic stock and/or said order point to reconfigure them.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium that stores a computer executable program for executing an inventory management method for controlling amounts of stocks, said program comprising the steps of:

storing delivery times and quantities of order lots accepted and restock lead times predetermined every item in a storage;

selecting at least one order lot accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before to “a” days after a basic time, from said order lots accepted, to set a threshold value  $x+y\sigma_1$  (where y is equal to or more than 0) based upon both an average x and a standard deviation  $\sigma_1$  of quantities of said selected order lot(s) accepted;

classifying at least one order lot accepted having a quantity  $\alpha$  of the selected order lot(s) accepted as a normal accepted order lot(s), wherein the  $\alpha$  is less than or equal to said threshold value; and

calculating a basic stock using a predetermined formula from said classified normal accepted order ~~lot(s).~~ lot(s).

wherein said calculating the basic stock using the predetermined formula comprises:

calculating an order point “r” and the basic stock  $\beta$  using following equations:

$$r = cz + m\sigma_4\sqrt{c}$$

$$\beta = r + tz$$

where “z” signifies an average shipping quantity per day of an order lot, having a delivery time within a period from the basic time to “a” days after, of said normal accepted order lot(s), “c” represents the restock lead time, “t” is an order differential time delay, “m” is equal to or greater than 1,  $\sigma_4$  signifies a standard deviation of shipping quantities per day of order lots accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before to the basic time, of said normal accepted order lot(s);

when  $d + e \leq r$ , where “d” signifies a present amount of a stock and “e” represents a quantities on order, calculating a required order quantity “f” using an equation  $f = \beta - (d + e - cz)$ .

16. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium that stores a computer executable program for executing an inventory management method for controlling amounts of stocks, said program comprising the steps of:

storing delivery times and quantities of order lots accepted and restock lead times predetermined every item in a storage;

selecting at least one order lot accepted, having a delivery time within a period from “b” days before a basic time to the basic time, from said order lots accepted, to set a threshold value  $x_1 + y_1\sigma_2$  (where  $y_1$  is equal to or more than 0) based upon both an average  $x_1$  and a standard deviation  $\sigma_2$  of quantities of said selected order lot(s) accepted, and selecting at least one order lot accepted, having a delivery time within a period from the basic time to “a” days after the basic time, from said ordered lots, to set a threshold value  $x_2 + y_2\sigma_3$  (where  $y_2$  is equal



to or more than 0) based upon both an average  $x_2$  and a standard deviation  $\sigma_3$  of quantities of said selected order lot(s) accepted;

classifying at least one order lot accepted having a quantity "B", being less than or equal to said threshold value  $(x_1 + y_1\sigma_2)$ , of the selected order lot(s) accepted, having a delivery time before the basic time, as a normal accepted order lot(s), and classifying at least one order lot accepted having a quantity "A", being less than or equal to said threshold value  $(x_2 + y_2\sigma_3)$ , of the selected order lot(s) accepted, having a delivery time after the basic time, as the normal accepted order lot(s); and

calculating a basic stock using a predetermined formula from said classified normal accepted order lot(s);

wherein said calculating the basic stock using the predetermined formula comprises:

calculating an order point "r" and the basic stock  $\beta$  using following equations:

$$r = cz + m\sigma_4\sqrt{c}$$

$$\beta = r + tz$$

where "z" signifies an average shipping quantity per day of an order lot, having a delivery time within a period from the basic time to "a" days after, of said normal accepted order lot(s), "c" represents the restock lead time, "t" is an order differential time delay, "m" is equal to or greater than 1,  $\sigma_4$  signifies a standard deviation of shipping quantities per day of order lots accepted, having a delivery time within a period from "b" days before to the basic time, of said normal accepted order lot(s);

when  $d + e \leq r$ , where "d" signifies a present amount of a stock and "e" represents a quantities on order, calculating a required order quantity "f" using an equation  $f = \beta - (d + e - cz)$ .

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium that stores a computer executable program according to claim 15, wherein a relationship between said a and b is  $a:b=1:1.5-3$ .

19. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium that stores a computer executable program according to claim 15, wherein said "a" is in a range as follows:  $5days \leq a \leq 60days$ .

20. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium that stores a computer executable program according to claim 15, further comprising the step of:

setting an alarm criteria range based upon said basic stock  $\beta$ , and monitoring a total of shipping quantities in a period from a basic alarm time to "c" days after the basic alarm time, when the total is beyond the alarm criteria range issuing ~~an~~ a warning.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium that stores a computer executable program according to claim 15, further comprising the steps of:

setting an alarm criteria range based upon said basic stock  $\beta$ , and monitoring a total of shipping quantities in a period from a basic alarm time to "c" days after the basic alarm time, when the total is beyond the alarm criteria range issuing ~~an~~ a warning; and

recalculating, when the warning is issued, said basic stock and/or said order point to reconfigure them.